

Welcoming Dave Graybill To The Nickel Ads The Fishin' Magician



The past few days have been great. I got out steelhead fishing twice. Once with my long-time fishing buddy Rollie Schmitten, from Lake Wenatchee, and this past Sunday with my wife Eileen in the new Jetcraft from Bob Feil Boats and Motors. Two great days on the water, and steelhead were caught both times, which made them greater!

Schmitten and I had been trying to get out for weeks it seems, but something, often the weather, got in our way. Last Friday we decided we were going, rain or shine, and he picked me up and we headed for Pateros. He had outfitted "Barb's Bateau", with a new electric motor and depth sounder, and we fired up both of them for the trip down to the Rocks, just below the mouth of the Methow.

We made a few unfruitful drifts through this area, which has been a steady producer of steelhead all season. We were marking fish, but only down deep, and I don't know if the brisk wind was driving them down or what.

We decided to give the Methow River a try. As we approached the bridge on the way to the ramp, Schmitten mentioned that he had marked fish on the way out and maybe we should try a couple of casts. Sure, I said, just toss one over there by the pillar. There was a slow take and his bobber went down! He released a 10- to 11-pound buck. Whew, our record was in tact. We haven't missed this season.

There were no other takers near the bridge, so we put the boat on the trailer and headed up the Methow. Schmitten said he didn't know many holes on the river, but he knew one darn good. He took me down to a beach, pointed where I should

make my cast, and said be ready. My bobber went down right where he said it would, and I pulled an 8-pound hen to the beach where he slid the hook out and let the wild fish go. The fish was a bright one; too, it looked like it could have been caught in November.

We tried a few more holes, and saw some really good water. These are all places that I know will hold fish, and I will return to try them another day. We didn't get any more hits, and just beat one heck of a rainstorm by getting the boat hooked up and heading for home. It turned out to be a good day on the water. I would return to all the places we stopped again before the season closes at the end of the month. There could be steelhead in any of them, and the chances of getting a bright hatchery fish are pretty good.

I picked up the new Jetcraft on Friday, and made a one-block pass at the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Wenatchee. Riding along with me was Cory Feil, and we sure had fun. We saw a lot of people while waiting for the big show to begin, and we both were surprised at the crowd along the parade route. From there I pulled the boat home and spent some time on Saturday getting the boat ready for its maiden voyage on Sunday.

I had promised my wife Eileen the first trip in the new boat, and she hadn't been steelhead fishing yet this season. I knew she liked steelhead fishing the best of all. Seeing that bobber go down and the tussle of a good fish really makes her smile. We were both very excited to get out on the water in the new boat, and decided to take it up to Bridgeport, where we have had some terrific days.

We tried a few of our usual "slam dunk" spots above the launch without even a take. We had a few other boats go by us and they all gave us the palms up, negative head shake gesture that we all know means no fish. We were getting worried. There was a spot or two we would try before giving up, though.

We had noticed two boats fishing at the

"blow hole" as we were driving to the launch, and there was another there when we ran down there to try it out. That was okay, we have caught fish below there anyway.

We had been casting for almost two hours by now, and with nothing to show for our efforts. All that changed. Eileen's bobber went down and the battle was on! This fish was reluctant about coming near the boat and when it finally got close enough for us to get a look at it, down it went. It was a big buck, 28 to 30 inches, and turned out to be wild fish. We released it and celebrated the first fish in the new boat.

I had a second rod rigged and ready and after re-baiting both rods we cast out again. Eileen saw a big fish roll and I cast to it a half dozen times. Finally, my bobber went down. This was also a wild fish, and I was amazed at how bright it was. If it had been a hatchery fish it would have gone into the pan and not the smoker.

Soon after we headed for the launch, and marveled at the day. The Jetcraft is a gem of a fishing boat. I will explain the features in detail at another time, but boy, what a fishing machine. I can't wait for my chance to get back out after steelhead in it again!

I sure enjoyed the fast action and quality of the fish that are being caught on Lake Roosevelt. I just may make another run up there next week at try it in the new Jetcraft!

Reach Dave at: www.FishingMagician.com or Fishboy@nwi.net

BE THE FIRST TO CAPTURE THE NEXT SPECIES OF CAT



884-3558 www.bobfeil.com
The Place To Buy A Snowmobile!

BOATS & MOTORS, INC.

2131 Sunset Hwy. East Wenatchee
Mon-Fri. 8-5:30 • Sat 9-4

**NO DOWN PAYMENT
NO INTEREST
NO PAYMENTS
TIL MARCH 1, 2012
PLUS
2-YEAR LIMITED
WARRANTY AND
\$500 SPRING
GUARANTEE BONUS
PROGRAM ENDS
APRIL 21, 2011**

CDP CUSTOM DIESEL PERFORMANCE
CUMMINS - DURAMAX - POWERSTROKE
**Better Fuel Economy!
Full Service Repair!**
BRAKES • BALL JOINTS
EXHAUST • A/C SERVICE
COMPLETE LIGHT TRUCK SERVICE!
223 Park St. • Next to 7-11 • Behind Car Wash • **663-6308**

For Hunin, Hikin, or Fishin
Radical 453
Danner
With Gortex 1 Year Waterproof Guarantee
Buy 5 Pairs of Socks Get 1 FREE!
NEAL'S
FAMILY SHOES & REPAIR
662-8472
811. S. Wenatchee Ave
Open : Sat. 8-4 • Tues.-Fri 8-6

To Advertise Here
Contact:
Bill Hansen

at the
Nickel Ads
662-1405
For More Information